

Mountain Investigation Part 1

1. Lay all of the foam pieces out in front of you and decide the order that you will stack them in. Then place each piece through the wooden dowel in the order that you decided.
2. How is this model mountain the same as a real mountain?
3. How is the model different than a real mountain?
4. Put your finger on the top layer of the mountain. This is called **the peak** (the highest part of a mountain). Now put your finger at the bottom layer of the mountain. This is called **the base**. Finally walk your fingers up the pieces from base to peak. This is the mountains **elevation** (the height of a mountain measured from sea level). **Sea level** is the surface of the oceans. It is always at zero feet.
*Write the definitions of these four words in your binder.

5. Find the 11,500 foot layer. This number tells you that this layer is 11,500 feet above sea level (the elevation). How far is it in feet to the next layer above?

How many feet is the 11,500 foot layer above the layer below it?

Why do you think this is the answer for both?

6. Put your finger on the 11,000 foot layer. Trace your finger around the whole piece. Does the elevation ever change on this layer?

Is this the same for all of the other layers?

Why do you think this is the case?

7. What is the elevation of the mountain's peak?
8. Take apart your mountain and place all of the pieces in the bag and fill -in any answers you found for your mountain worksheet .